
Standard Operating Procedures
Investigating Source of Oil in the Wet Well

PPE Required:

- Back brace (if in the back brace program)
- Safety shoes
- Safety goggles
- Leather gloves
- Hard hat
- Rubber gloves
- Rubber boots
- Disposable protective clothing

Equipment Required:

- Manhole cover hook
- Sample jar
- Hammer

References:

1. PWC Occupational Safety and Health Program Manual, PWCNORVAINST 5100.33E
2. PWC Occupational Safety and Health Standard Operating Procedures For Confined Space Entry Program, Safety Office SOP No. 001

Procedures:

1. After work center receives a report of oil in the wet well, refer to SOP 621.3 SAN 026, Oil in the Wet Well. Then proceed with isolating the source of the oil.

2. Determine which piers are serviced by the oil contaminated station.

3. Prior to checking manholes at the head of these piers, effect traffic control plan (if manhole is in vehicular or pedestrian thoroughfare.) Reference SOP 621.3 SAN 028, Traffic Control.

4. Go to the head of each of these piers, and lift the manhole cover.

5. Without entering the manhole, check the manhole for evidence of oil (odor or visual.) Replace the manhole cover.

6. After oil has been detected in the manhole(s), determine which pier(s) are serviced by the oil contaminated manhole(s).

7. Determine which ship(s) are berthed on the pier(s) identified in step 6.

NOTE: If the ship's CHT hose is connected to a modified riser Steps 8, 9, and 12 may be skipped.

8. Advise each ship identified in step 6 to cease operation of the CHT pumps until further notified.

9. Disconnect the CHT hose from the sewer riser.

10. Obtain a sewer discharge sample from the residual of sewage in the hose, or, if a modified riser is present, obtain sample by opening both 3/4" gate valves on the modified riser and collecting sample from riser drain line. (After collecting the sample return both gate valves to the closed position.)

11. Examine the sample for oil and water separation. A normal sample will exhibit an oil sheen or the presence of 1/8" or less of oil in the sample jar. A sample which exhibits 1/4" or more of oil, indicates the ship is pumping a significant quantity of oil.

12. If an examination of the sample does not confirm the presence of oil, re-connect the CHT hose to the sewer riser and advise the ship(s) that they may continue with normal operation of the CHT pumps.

13. Samples with no significant evidence of oil may be disposed of at the manhole at the head of the pier or at the wet well .

14. If a significant presence of oil is detected (1/4" or more of oil in the sample jar), advise the ship that all CHT pumping operations will be secured until the problem has been identified and resolved.